BLACK PANTHER

A MARVEL COMICS EVENT

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PREVIOUSLY

Unfettered by the yoke of colonization, the African warrior nation of WAKANDA flourished and became a high-tech, resource-rich, ecologically-sound paradise—one that makes the rest of the world seem primitive in comparison. Ruling over this kingdom are the BLACK PANTHER and his queen, STORM.

The Black Panther is more than just a head of state, the leader of a warrior cult. The Black Panther is the embodiment of the ideals of a people. While T'Challa's marriage to Storm was a happy occasion, the couple was reminded that Wakanda faces difficult times ahead. Now more than ever, Wakanda needs the Black Panther to preserve its integrity and guide its people.

Over the course of their world tour—which spanned Latveria, the Moon, and Atlantis—the newlyweds found themselves drawn into the super hero conflict in America. After offering his condolences to the family of the fallen hero Goliath, T'Challa allied himself with the heroes opposing the Superhuman Registration Act. Recognizing the advanced technology at his disposal, Captain America tasked T'Challa with an important mission: breaking into Iron Man's Negative Zone Prison, 42!

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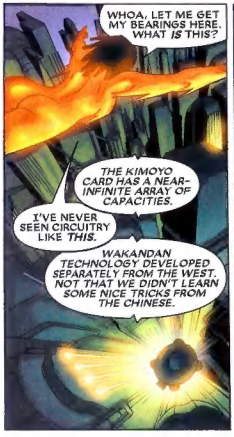
THE SECRET HEADQUARTERS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S ANTI-REGISTRATION UNDERGROUND.
REMEMBER, MONICA, KEEP LISTENING TO MY VOICE, EVEN IN LIGHT FORM.
I'M CHANGING... NOW!
GREAT. KEEP SHRINKING AS YOU ENTER THE KIMOYO CARD.


WHOA, LET ME GET MY BEARINGS HERE. WHAT IS THIS?
THE KIMOYO CARD HAS A NEAR-INFINITE ARRAY OF CAPACITIES.
I'VE NEVER SEEN CIRCUITRY LIKE THIS.
WAKANDAN TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED SEPARATELY FROM THE WEST. NOT THAT WE DIDN'T LEARN SOME NICE TRICKS FROM THE CHINESE.

I THINK I'VE FOUND THE ADAPTER DEVICE YOU DESCRIBED TO ME.
I WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE MODIFICATIONS I NEED TO MAKE SO IT WILL OPEN THE GATES TO 42.

I COULDN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON CONTACTING THE EMBASSY FOR MY TOOLS. BUT YOUR ABILITIES ARE PERFECT FOR THE TASK.
WHEN IS YOUR WIFE JOINING US?
IN TIME...

"...WE ALL HAVE ASSIGNMENTS TO FULFILL."
THE BAXTER BUILDING...
I'VE READ AND LISTENED TO ALL OF T'CHALLA'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT. HE HAS NEVER EXPLICITLY STATED THAT REGISTRATION IS *WRONG*.
IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR A HEAD OF STATE OF ANOTHER COUNTRY TO COMMENT ON U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY.
YES, A CONVENIENT EXCUSE TO AVOID THE REAL ISSUE.
WHICH *IS*?
WAKANDA PROVIDES FREE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL OF ITS CITIZENS, WHICH IS A WONDERFUL SOCIAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE...BUT IT'S ALSO A GREAT WAY TO CHECK IF THERE ARE ANY CITIZENS WITH *META-HUMAN* ABILITIES.
DON'T PROJECT WHAT YOUR INTENTIONS WOULD BE--
I'M NOT SAYING IT'S A BAD THING. JUST THE OPPOSITE, IN FACT. TOO MANY KIDS HAVE TO LEARN TO DEAL WITH THEIR POWERS WITHOUT PROPER SUPERVISION. ISN'T THAT XAVIER'S VISION IN THE FIRST PLACE?
BUT NOT TO MAKE AN ARMY RUN BY A GOVERNMENT THAT FEARS THEM.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. BECAUSE WE DO UNDERSTAND.
THAT CERTAINLY DID BILL FOSTER A LOT OF GOOD.
BILL...WAS A TRAGIC LOSS. A DISASTER.
BUT SHOULD A MISTAKE STOP US FROM DOING THE RIGHT THING?
NO. IT SHOULD MAKE YOU *QUESTION* WHETHER YOU ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING.

I DO. ALL THE TIME. THAT'S WHY I LOOK TO SIMILAR SITUATIONS.
I'LL GIVE AN EXAMPLE: VIBRAXAS AND MAYBE MAN-APE ARE THE ONLY SUPER-POWERED WAKANDANS I KNOW OF--MAYBE KILLMONGER. ARE THERE *OTHERS?* WERE SOME OF THEM POTENTIAL MENACES TO SOCIETY THAT WERE TURNED IN ANOTHER DIRECTION? IS THERE A SECRET ARMY OF WAKANDAN *MUTANTS?*
IS THAT A RHETORICAL QUESTION?
NOT IF YOU WILL GIVE A REAL ANSWER.
QUIT FISHING.
THE POINT IS, *INFORMATION IS POWER*, AND POWER CAN BE USED FOR GOOD OR BAD. T'CHALLA HAS MADE IT CLEAR HE OBJECTS TO OUR EXECUTION OF THE IDEA. BUT THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM OBJECTING TO THE IDEA ITSELF.
YOU *ARE* A GENIUS, REED.
OH...?
BECAUSE THAT LEVEL OF RATIONALIZATION IS BEYOND MY IMAGINATION.
NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...

WAR CRIMES PART THREE: THUNDER AND LIGHTNING

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ATTENTION ALL EMBASSY PERSONNEL!
WAKA
EMBA
THIS IS THE BLACK PANTHER. IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS MESSAGE, IT MEANS A CRISIS THAT THREATENS YOUR SAFETY IS IMMINENT.
EVACUATE THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY!
EXIT
FILES DELETED
LOOKS LIKE EVERYBODY'S BUGGING OUT OF THE WAKANDAN EMBASSY. FIGURE THEY KNOW SOMETHING WE DON'T?
FWOOSH
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

LOOK...YOU CAN SEE THE EMBASSY FROM HERE.
THE STAFF IS STILL EVACUATING!
THEY NEED YOUR HELP THE MOST. COULD YOU MAKE SURE THEY TAKE OFF OKAY. THEN MEET ME BACK HERE?
ANYWHERE IN PARTICULAR?
RIGHT HERE IS FINE.
PANTHER! WHAT'S UP, MAN?
NOT MUCH, LUKE.
MONICA! KEEP SHIFTING UP AND DOWN THE LIGHT SPECTRUM SO BISHOP CAN'T CATCH YOUR FREQUENCY.
WHUD
HE'S ABSORBING YOUR LASER BLASTS. JUST PASS THROUGH!
I KNEW THAT... HE JUST PISSES ME OFF SO MUCH I WASN'T THINKING... ON IT!
SELLOUT.

NICE. ANY WORDS FOR ME?
HE'S LEAVING HIS RIGHT OPEN.
YOU CAN'T SCRAP, PRETTY BOY!
HEY, WHAT'S HAPPENING?
THUNK
UGH!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T MIND A LITTLE HELPFUL GUST, FALCON.
GOOD LOOKING OUT, STOR--
I MEAN, QUEEN ORORO!

GET ON BOARD, HURRY!
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TAKE OFF!
ALL FLIGHTS LEAVING MANHATTAN ARE GROUNDED! THE SKY IS SHUT DOWN, UNDERSTAND? THIS IS FOR YOUR SAFETY!
AID MY HUSBAND AND OUR ALLIES—OR PROTECT THE ESCAPING EMBASSY EMPLOYEES FROM AN ATTACK FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.?
THERE IS NO REAL CHOICE. THE WAKANDANS ARE DEFENSELESS.

BOOOOOM
NOT THIS MUTHA! HE'S A STONE KILLER.
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE BE'TTER BEHAVED NOW...
WANNA BET YOUR *LIFE* ON IT?
MONICA! YOU NEED TO--
I THINK I DIDN'T SEE THAT MOVE COMING, T'CHALLA?

IF THOU BELIEVEST I WILL BE MORE MERCIFUL THIS TIME, I PRAY THEE RECONSIDER QUICKLY. I AM AN ASGARDIAN ABOVE ALL MORTAL LAW!
HE'S SCARING ME.
DON'T WORRY, HE'S JUST PSYCHING THEM OUT.
I THINK.
KRRR

REPEAT: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TAKE OFF!
KUH-KUH!
KUK!
KA-CHUNK!
EMBASSY AUTO-PROTECTION ACTIVATED.
YOU WERE SAYING?

KER-BLAAAAAM!!
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO PAY FOR DAMAGES, YOU KNOW.
DO YOU THINK THIS IS A JOKING MATTER?

IS THIS HUMOROUS TO YOU?!
MAN, THAT'S A NASTY LAWSUIT.
COULD THAT BE CONSIDERED AN ACT OF WAR?
THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED AN ACT OF WAR.
HAH! FOOLISH MORTAL! THOR IS THE MASTER OF THE WIND AND THE STORM!

BAR-ROOOOOOM!

INSOLENT WENCH!
DIDST THOU THINK THAT WOULD HARM THE GOD OF THUNDER?
NO, IT WAS JUST A WARM-UP FOR THIS!

KRAK-KOOOOOM
I--
--AM THE LORD OF LIGHTNING!
NO, I DON'T THINK YOU ARE. IN FACT, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN CONTROL THE WEATHER IN THE SLIGHTEST.
YOU'RE JUST A TOY WITH A RAY GUN.
SHOOT YOUR BEST SHOT

FRAAK
WHAT TRICKERY IS THIS?
YOU'RE MY HUSBAND'S ABOMINATION...
...AND I'M HERE TO ABORT YOU!

IF FEMALES WISH TO PLAY IN THE FIELD OF BATTLE, THEN A WARRIOR'S FATE FOR THEE!
HHAK!
SUE!
I'M OKAY, ORORO. BUT IT WILL TAKE ME A MINUTE TO DIG MY WAY OUT.
I WILL CRUSH YOUR BONES INTO POWDER!
HE'S NOT THOR, REMEMBER THAT.
WHATEVER HE IS--ROBOT, CYBORG, CLONE--HE'S NOT THOR.
DEEP BREATHS, ORORO.
CONNECT TO THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD THAT IS THE SOURCE OF YOUR POWERS.

WHUD
NIFTY.
I BEAMED AN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE TO HIS BRAIN.
WELL, IT WORKED.
SPOKE TOO SOON.
OUR DANCE IS NOT DONE...?
ALLOW ME TO CUT IN.
I SHALL TAKE IT FROM HERE, FAIR MAIDENS.

OOH!
NICE HIT!
WOW, DID YOU KNOW HE WAS THAT STRONG? I MEAN, HE'S HERCULES, BUT STILL--
I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO NEED OUR ASSISTANCE ON THIS ONE.
WHOM
OOOOOH!
LOOK, ARE YOU OKAY? BECAUSE I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR REED NOW.
OH...I'M FINE. I NEED TO LOOK FOR MY HUSBAND, TOO.
SPLUNCH
WOW, WHAT A FINISH!

SOME TIME LATER...
...THE STREETS OF NEW YORK WERE AS VIOLENT AS THE FIELDS OF GETTYSBURG AS THE FINAL BATTLE IN THE "CIVIL WAR" BETWEEN SUPER HEROES SEEMS TO HAVE PEAKED TODAY. BUT IT WAS ANYTHING BUT CIVIL IN THE CONFLICT BETWEEN SUPPORTERS AND OPPONENTS OF THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT....
ANOTHER HOME LOST. I HOPE IT WAS WORTH IT TO END THIS STRUGGLE BETWEEN FRIENDS.
OH! THERE YOU ARE!
HOW DO YOU DO THAT?
WE HAVE A PROBLEM.
I KNOW. IT'S GOING TO TAKE MONTHS TO REBUILD--
NO. A BIGGER PROBLEM.
WHAT?
CAP QUIT.
WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. HE--
I'M DEADLY SERIOUS. CAPTAIN AMERICA... SURRENDERED...

NEXT: A NEW FAMILY, A NEW HOME